

By the Appropriations Committee on Agriculture, Environment, and General Government; and Senator Yarborough

601-02485-24

2024366c1

1 A bill to be entitled  
2 An act relating to civil penalties under the Gas  
3 Safety Law of 1967; amending s. 368.061, F.S.;  
4 increasing, until a specified date, the civil penalty  
5 amount for violating the Gas Safety Law of 1967;  
6 increasing the maximum authorized civil penalty for  
7 any related series of violations during such  
8 timeframe; requiring the Florida Public Service  
9 Commission, after a date certain and at least annually  
10 thereafter, to establish and, if necessary, revise  
11 maximum penalties by rule based on specified factors;  
12 authorizing the commission to adopt rules; providing  
13 an effective date.

14  
15 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

16  
17 Section 1. Subsection (1) of section 368.061, Florida  
18 Statutes, is amended, and subsection (4) is added to that  
19 section, to read:

20 368.061 Penalty.—

21 (1) A ~~Any~~ person who violates ~~any provision of~~ this part,  
22 or any regulation issued hereunder, ~~is shall be~~ subject to a  
23 civil penalty not to exceed the following:

24 (a) Until June 30, 2025, \$266,015 ~~\$25,000~~ for each  
25 violation for each day that such violation persists, except that  
26 the maximum civil penalty may ~~shall~~ not exceed \$2,660,135  
27 ~~\$500,000~~ for any related series of violations.

28 (b) On or after July 1, 2025, maximum penalties established  
29 by the Florida Public Service Commission by rule. In

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30 establishing such penalties, the commission shall consider the  
31 penalties established in paragraph (a) and make revisions to  
32 such penalties based upon consideration of the Consumer Price  
33 Index, penalties established in federal law for pipeline safety  
34 violations, and the intent of the Legislature that the  
35 commission maintain its certification with the Pipeline and  
36 Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, or any of its  
37 successor agencies, to enforce pipeline safety. The commission  
38 shall review the penalties established in this paragraph at  
39 least annually and revise as necessary, using the considerations  
40 specified in this paragraph.

41 (4) The commission may adopt rules to implement this  
42 section.

43 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2024.